

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original): A tire characterized by using as a member, a rubber composition comprising (a) a rubber component comprising at least one selected from a natural rubber and a diene base synthetic rubber, (b) silica having a nitrogen-absorbing specific surface area (N_2SA) of 180 to 270 m^2/g and 0.1 to 10.0 mass parts of (c) a partial ester compound of maleic anhydride and a (poly)oxypropylene derivative per 100 mass parts of the rubber component described above.
2. (original): The tire as described in claim 1, wherein the rubber composition further comprises (d) at least one hydrazide compound selected from naphthoic acid hydrazides and salicylic acid hydrazides in an amount of 0.1 to 5.0 mass parts per 100 mass parts of the rubber component (a).
3. (original): The tire as described in claim 2, wherein the hydrazide compound (d) is 2-hydroxy-N'-(1,3-dimethylbutylidene)-3-naphthoic acid hydrazide.
4. (currently amended): The tire as described in ~~claim 1, 2 or 3~~ claim 1, wherein 20 mass parts or more of the natural rubber is contained in 100 mass parts of the whole rubber component.

5. (currently amended): The tire as described in ~~any of claims 1 to 4~~claim 1, wherein the rubber composition comprises (e) carbon black having a nitrogen-absorbing specific surface area (N_2SA) of 30 to 160 m^2/g and a dibutyl phthalate oil absorption (DBP) of 60 to 150 ml/100 g in an amount of 30 to 80 mass parts per 100 mass parts of the rubber component (a).

6. (currently amended): The tire as described in ~~any of claims 1 to 5~~claim 1, wherein the silica (b) contained in the rubber composition has a content of 2 to 50 mass parts per 100 mass parts of the rubber component.

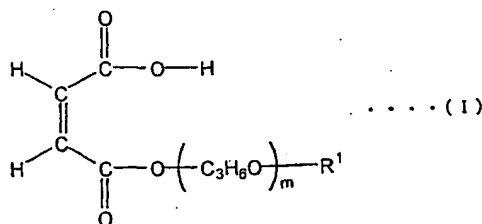
7. (currently amended): The tire as described in ~~any of claims 1 to 6~~claim 1, comprising a tire for a heavy load.

8. (original): The tire as described in claim 7, wherein the tire for a heavy load is an off-road tire.

9. (currently amended): The tire as described in ~~any of claims 1 to 8~~claim 1, wherein the rubber composition described above is applied to a cap tread and/or an undertread in a tread part.

10. (original): A tire characterized by using as a tread rubber, a rubber composition comprising (A) a rubber component comprising a conjugate diene base rubber, (B) a filler comprising 10 mass % or more of a white filler based on the whole fillers and (C) a partial ester compound of maleic anhydride and a (poly)oxypropylene derivative.

11. (currently amended): The tire as described in claim 1 ~~or 10~~, wherein the partial ester compound described above is a compound represented by the following Formula (I):



wherein m is a number of 3 to 7 showing an average polymerization degree, and R¹ is an alkyl group or an alkenyl group having 8 to 18 carbon atoms.

12. (currently amended): The tire as described in claim ~~10 or 11~~, wherein the conjugate diene base rubber comprises at least a styrene-butadiene copolymer rubber.

13. (currently amended): The tire as described in claim ~~10, 11 or 12~~, wherein a blending amount of the filler as the component (B) is 30 to 150 mass parts per 100 mass parts of the rubber component.

14. (currently amended): The tire as described in ~~any of claims 10 to 13~~ claim 10, wherein the white filler is silica.

15. (currently amended): The tire as described in ~~any of claims 10 to 14~~ claim 10, wherein the rubber composition described above further comprises a softening agent comprising an oil in which a dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) extract amount measured by an IP346 method is controlled to less than 3 mass %.

16. (currently amended): The tire as described in ~~any of claims 10 to 15~~ claim 10, wherein the rubber composition described above further comprises at least one resin selected from a petroleum base resin having a softening point of 30 to 150°C and an α-olefin base resin.